

Message Text

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y PARA 1 LINE 23

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, GW, US
SUBJECT: TOPICS THE CHANCELLOR MAY RAISE WITH THE
PRESIDENT

REFS: (A) STATE 134951; (B) BONN 10310

1. A SENIOR OFFICIAL IN THE FRG CHANCELLERY, JUERGEN
RUHFUS, HAS GIVEN THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR THE FOLLOWING
TOPICS THAT HE NOW BELIEVES SCHMIDT WILL WISH TO DISCUSS
WITH THE PRESIDENT WHEN HE VISITS WASHINGTON:

--EAST/WEST RELATIONS. RUHFUS SAID SCHMIDT WOULD
HOPE TO REVIEW THE CURRENT STATE OF THOSE RELATIONS AND,
WITH THE PRESIDENT, EVALUATE PROSPECTS.

--SALT. RUHFUS SAID SCHMIDT, AS A FORMER DEFENSE
MINISTER, WAS VERY INTERESTED IN THE IMPLICATIONS FOR
THE EUROPEAN BALANCE OF ANY POTENTIAL LIMITS ON CRUISE
MISSILES, ESPECIALLY GLCM'S. RUHFUS THOUGHT THE CHAN-
CELLOR WOULD WANT TO REVIEW HOW TO AVOID SLIDING FROM
SALT INTO A NEGOTIATION ABOUT FBS.

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--MBFR. RUHFUS SAID THE CHANCELLOR WOULD WISH TO
DISCUSS AND COORDINATE PROSPECTS AND PLANS FOR THE NEXT
ROUND OF THOSE TALKS. RUHFUS DID NOT GO INTO DETAIL ON
THE PRESENT ISSUE REGARDING DATA DISAGGREGATION, AND
THUS GAVE NO INDICATION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE CHAN-
CELLOR SHARES GENSCHER'S POSITIONS.

--NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION. RUHFUS SAID THE CHANCELLOR MIGHT EXPRESS THE GERMAN CONCERN THAT THE LONDON TALKS WERE CONCENTRATING EXCLUSIVELY ON FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION AND NOT DISCUSSING OTHER TOPICS (SUCH AS BREEDER REACTORS OR OTHER MEANS OF FUEL SUPPLY RELIEF) THAT THE GERMANS THOUGHT THE SUMMIT MEETING HAD AGREED TO INCLUDE FOR CONSIDERATION. (THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH OTHER INFORMATION, REPORTED IN REF B.)

--NORTH/SOUTH MATTERS. RUHFUS THOUGHT THE CHANCELLOR WOULD ATTEMPT TO COORDINATE GENERAL VIEWS AND, IN PARTICULAR, TO VOICE HIS BELIEF THAT THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS SHOULD NOT BE PRESSURED INTO FURTHER CONCESSIONS TO THE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES.

--HUMAN RIGHTS. RUHFUS DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT THE CHANCELLOR WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS ON THIS. WE HEAR FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT HE MAY WISH TO REVIEW WHERE WE ARE GOING IN BELGRADE.

--ECONOMIC POLICIES. RUHFUS SAID HE THOUGHT SCHMIDT WOULD EXPECT TO REVIEW THE CURRENT SITUATIONS IN BOTH COUNTRIES AND EXCHANGE IDEAS ABOUT WHERE WE SHOULD GO FROM HERE. (OTHER RELIABLE SOURCES TELL US THAT SCHMIDT WILL WANT TO DISCUSS TRADE POLICY.)

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2. RUHFUS STRESSED THAT HIS REMARKS SHOULD BE REGARDED AS PRELIMINARY AND AS BASED MERELY ON HIS OWN SENSE OF THE CHANCELLOR'S THINKING. HE SAID THAT STAFFING FOR THE VISIT HAD NOT BEEN COMPLETED AND THAT IT WAS DOUBTFUL THE CHANCELLOR COULD FOCUS CLOSELY ON IT DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS. THEREFORE, IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THE CHANCELLOR MIGHT HAVE OTHER TOPICS IN THE BACK OF HIS MIND OR MIGHT HANDLE SOME OF THESE ISSUES DIFFERENTLY FROM THE WAY RUHFUS HAD TOLD US.

3. COMMENT: WE REGARD RUHFUS' DISCLAIMER AS VALID, SINCE SCHMIDT HAS BEEN KNOWN AT OTHER TIMES TO DEPART FROM PREPARED BRIEFS OR TO RAISE TOPICS THAT HIS STAFF HAD NOT CONSIDERED. HOWEVER, WE THINK THE GENERAL OUTLINES OF RUHFUS' BRIEFING SHOULD BE REGARDED AS ACCURATE AND TAKEN AS SOME GUIDE TO SCHMIDT'S PRESENT THINKING.
STOESSEL

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